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Committee for Programme and Coordination
Forty-third session
9 June to 3 July 2003
Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on the work of its forty-third session

Rapporteur: Mr. Jerry **Kramer** (Canada)

Addendum

Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

(*Item 4* (*a*))

Section 10
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

1. At its 13th meeting, on 18 June 2003, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered section 10, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 (A/58/6 (Sect. 10)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced section 10 and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the budget section.

Discussion

3. Full support was expressed for the activities of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. The view was expressed that the Office should focus on mobilizing international support, promoting global awareness with respect to the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and reporting at the global level on the implementation of the programmes of action. The clarity of the document was welcomed.

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4. It was recognized that since the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States was a newly established office, no output was proposed for discontinuation. However, the need to present outputs for deletion in the future proposed programme budgets of the Office was underlined.

5. The importance of the success of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, which will be held in Almaty in August 2003, was emphasized. It was recalled that the International Ministerial Conference would be the first United Nations international conference to address the needs of the landlocked developing countries. Its follow-up should become a priority.

6. The establishment of the web site of the Office, which provides information on its activities, was welcomed.

7. The view was expressed that paragraph 10.3, which gives a snapshot of the activities of the Office, should focus more on the logical framework.

8. The view was expressed that very close coordination should be developed between the Office and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in respect of activities related to small island developing States.

9. It was noted that the expected accomplishment (table 10.5) was referring to the three programmes of action as a whole. It was considered that it would have been preferable to have one specific indicator for each programme of action.

10. The view was expressed that the indicators of achievement should be revised to reflect the main function of the Office: to mobilize resources and coordinate among other agencies in the United Nations system helping the least developed countries. The stated performance measures lacked well-defined activities and clear indicators for measuring progress.

11. It was stated that the external factor (b) in paragraph 10.14, "all partners respect the commitments set out in the programmes of action", was not a valid external factor.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of section 10, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, subject to the following modifications.**

Paragraph 10.1

At the end of the paragraph, add the following sentence: "In addition, the programme is responsible for the provision of effective follow-up support to the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, taking fully into account the relevant outcomes of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and General Assembly resolution 57/262 relating to the convening of an international meeting in Mauritius in 2004 to undertake a

full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States."

Paragraph 10.4

(a) In the first sentence, after the words "Transport Cooperation and the", insert the words "further implementation of the".

(b) In the third sentence, after the words "Department of Economic and Social Affairs", insert the words "the regional commissions and the South Centre".

Table 10.5

(a) Under *Objective*, in the first sentence, replace the words "progress towards the achievement of" with the word "realize";

(b) Under *Expected accomplishments*, at the end of the paragraph, add the words: "and the relevant General Assembly resolutions".

Paragraph 10.14 (d)

After the words "political situation", replace the word "of" with the word "in".